

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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The Illinois Park & Recreation Association Board Elects Mary Jeanne Hutchison as Chair-Elect

La Grange – The Illinois Park & Recreation Association (IPRA) has selected Mary Jeanne Hutchison, CPRP, Director of O’Fallon Parks and Recreation as its 2015 Board Chair-Elect. She will be the third Chair in the 70 year history of IPRA from southern Illinois.



A 23 year member of IPRA, Mary Jeanne started her career in parks and recreation working as a lifeguard while going to Western Illinois University. In 2002, she was selected to lead O’Fallon Parks and Recreation, and as Director, manages a staff of 13 full time and over 100 part time and seasonal employees.

She has been involved in many IPRA committees, is a past chair of the Southern Illinois Park & Recreation Association, and is current treasurer of the Southern Illinois Special Recreation Association Board.

Reflecting on her upcoming role, Mary Jeanne Hutchison stated, “It is an exceptional time to lead such dedicated professionals. I look forward to serving the entire state and reaching out to support all communities with park systems in Illinois.”

“Mary Jeanne has been a dedicated member of the IPRA board for several years. She has been a strong advocate for parks and recreation in southern Illinois and now she has the opportunity to bring her voice statewide as our industry leader in 2016. Illinois is going to love her no-nonsense leadership style and passion for parks and recreation. I look forward to working with her as our Chair Elect and Chair.”- Debbie Trueblood, IPRA Executive Director.

Established in 1944, the Illinois Park and Recreation Association’s mission is to provide and promote exceptional standards of education, networking, and resources for all professionals in the Illinois park, recreation, and conservation communities. For more information about IPRA, its board and mission, please call us or visit the IPRA website: www.ILipra.org

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